

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for manufacturing a golf club head, comprising:
  - forming a highly polished surface on a rear face of a striking plate;
  - forming a reinforcing metal layer on the highly polished surface of the
  - 5 striking plate;
  - inserting the striking plate into a golf club head body having a recession and a welding flange;
  - deforming the welding flange of the golf club head body along an outer periphery of the striking plate;
  - 10 welding the welding flange to fuse the golf club head body and the striking plate along a boundary between the golf club head body and the striking plate; and
  - finishing welded portion of the golf club head and the striking plate.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said deforming the
- 15 welding flange is performed by using at least one pressing member, and wherein said welding the welding flange includes using high energy welding to fuse the golf club head body and the striking plate along a boundary between the golf club head body and the striking plate after the welding flange of the golf club head body is pressed and thus deformed by said at least one pressing
- 20 member.
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing metal layer is formed by means of physical vapor deposition.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing metal layer is formed by means of plating.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a material for the reinforcing metal layer is selected from a group consisting of titanium,  
5 zirconium, hafnium, chromium, and combinations thereof.

6. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the reinforcing metal layer includes nitride or carbonic nitride of the material for the reinforcing metal layer.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reinforcing metal  
10 layer has a thickness of 1-20  $\mu$  m.

8. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the highly polished surface of the striking plate has a surface roughness below 6.3  $\mu$  m.

9. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the high energy welding is laser welding.

15 10. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the high energy welding is electron-beam welding.

11. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the welding flange includes an outer periphery having an inwardly inclined face.

12. The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the welding flange is  
20 pressed and deformed to form a thin sheet of metal that covers a boundary between the striking plate and the golf club head body and thus acts as a filling material for the high energy welding.

13. A golf club head comprising:

a golf club head body including a recession in a side thereof; and

a striking plate embedded in the recession of the golf club head body,  
the striking plate including a front face acting as a striking face and a rear face  
5 that is a highly polished surface;

a reinforcing metal layer being formed on the highly polished surface of  
the striking plate and having a hardness higher than 1000 HV for protecting the  
highly polished surface.

14. The golf club head as claimed in claim 13, wherein the reinforcing  
10 metal layer is formed by means of physical vapor deposition.

15. The golf club head as claimed in claim 13, wherein the reinforcing  
metal layer is formed by means of plating.

16. The golf club head as claimed in claim 13, wherein a material for  
the reinforcing metal layer is selected from a group consisting of titanium,  
15 zirconium, hafnium, chromium, and combinations thereof.

17. The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the reinforcing metal  
layer includes nitride or carbonic nitride of the material for the reinforcing  
metal layer.

18. The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the reinforcing metal  
20 layer has a thickness of 1-20  $\mu$  m.

19. The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the highly polished  
surface of the striking plate has a surface roughness below 6.3  $\mu$  m.

20. The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the welding flange includes an outer periphery having an inwardly inclined face.